



ConserveVirginia:

VIRGINIA'S LAND CONSERVATION ROADMAP

ConserveVirginia is the Commonwealth's strategy for land conservation. It provides an **innovative, continually updated, data-driven approach** for prioritizing lands to be conserved, and directing limited resources to projects that offer the greatest benefit by identifying the cream of the crop from our agricultural lands, natural areas, forest lands, wildlife corridors, water quality, ethnic and culturally significant sites, coastal resilience, and more in a cost-effective manner.

The central feature of *ConserveVirginia* is a living publicly available **digital map** that combines 21+ datasets into a single, information-rich tool for decision-making. **This takes the guesswork out of determining which lands have the greatest value for conservation benefit.**

THE DIGITAL MAP INFORMS:

- State land acquisitions and easements
- Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan
- Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan
- Environmental mitigation projects
- Virginia Land Conservation Foundation grants
- Land and Water Conservation Fund grants

The best available **information and science** — provided by many federal, state, and local agencies and private organizations ranging from the U.S. Forest Service to the Department of Wildlife Resources to The Nature Conservancy — is the basis of *ConserveVirginia*'s map technology.

ConserveVirginia is also a system for tracking land conservation progress across public and private sectors.

Land is necessary for a safe, equitable and productive future for all Virginians. Conserved lands provide clean drinking water, healthy food and space to connect with nature. The pandemic has brought an unprecedented demand for access to nature.

Conserved lands protect communities from natural disasters like flooding and from the impacts of climate change.

It's important to remember that the benefits afforded through well-managed lands are not enjoyed by all Virginians. ConserveVirginia can help us see where additional public lands will help address inequalities.

Anyone can access *ConserveVirginia* at **www.dcr.virginia.gov/conservevirginia**.





QUICK FACTS

6.9 million acres have been identified as high-priority conservation lands.

They are grouped into these categories:



AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

CULTURAL AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

FLOODPLAINS AND FLOODING RESILIENCE

NATURAL HABITAT AND ECOSYSTEM DIVERSITY

PROTECTED LANDSCAPES RESILIENCE

SCENIC PRESERVATION

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

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conservevirginia](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/conservevirginia).



**Governor Ralph Northam
launched *ConserveVirginia*
on April 9, 2019.**

**117,085 acres of the identified
lands have been conserved
since *ConserveVirginia* launched.**

**21 separate data inputs
are combined to create
the digital map.**

